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REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed on July 14, 2004.

Election/Restrictions

The Examiner noted that claim 18 depends upon claim 9, which is part of non-elected group II. Applicant has cancelled claim 18.

Drawings

Applicant previously submitted an informal drawing, sheet 6, Figure 8. The Examiner objected to the drawing. The Examiner recently acknowledged that this drawing is not objectionable. Applicant also submits a formalized drawing sheet of the informal drawing, Sheet No. 6, along with revised sheets 1-5 which have been revised only to indicate the additional sheet. Accordingly, Applicant believes the drawings are no longer objectionable.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejected claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has cancelled claims 2 and 3. Accordingly, this rejection is no longer applicable.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8, 16 and 17 as being anticipated by Herringshaw, et al. (4,800,638). In this regard, Applicant disagrees with the basis for this rejection. Specifically, the Examiner identifies items 42, 32 and 48 as "at least one functional component." Both independent claim 1 and independent claim 16 require, "assembling the at least one functional component onto the outer face of the door inner panel." However, items 42 and 48 are clearly fitted to component 32 as shown in Figure 3. They are not assembled onto the outer face of the

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door inner panel as required by claim 1 and claim 16. Therefore, components 42 and 48 cannot meet the limitation set forth in claims 1 and 16.

Assuming anti-intrusion beam 32 qualifies as a "functional component," the Examiner must necessarily assume that the so-called "belt line reeinforcement member 210 serves as an anti-intrusion beam. However, nothing within *Herringshaw*, et al. indicates that this member serves in such a capacity. Indeed, the identification of component 32 as an anti-intrusion beam by *Herringshaw*, et al. suggests that component 210 is not another anti-intrusion beam. Therefore, the limitations of claim 1 and 16 have not been shown in *Herringshaw*, et al. Therefore, independent claim 1 and 16 as well as their dependents, claims 4-8 and 17, stand in condition for allowance.

New Claim

Applicant has added new claim 19, which further distinguishes the present invention from Herringshaw, et al. Claim 19 requires, "an anti-intrusion beam configured to prevent intrusion of other vehicles into a vehicle to which the door is fitted in the event of a road traffic accident." This feature is not shown in Herringshaw, et al. For this reason, dependent claim 19 is in condition for allowance.

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Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (703) 872-9306) on September 14, 2004

Theresa M. Palmateer

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